

Assembly Bill No. 2230

CHAPTER 545

An act to add Part 2.12 (commencing with Section 10950) to Division 6 of the Water Code, relating to water resources.

[Approved by Governor September 25, 2012. Filed with
Secretary of State September 25, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2230, Gatto. Recycled water: car washes.

Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to take appropriate actions to prevent waste or the unreasonable use of water. Under existing law, the board makes determinations with regard to the availability of recycled water.

This bill would require an in-bay car wash, as defined, or a conveyor car wash, as defined, permitted and constructed after January 1, 2014, to either install, use, and maintain a water recycling system, as defined, that recycles and reuses at least 60% of the wash and rinse water, or to use recycled water provided by a water supplier for at least 60% of its wash and rinse water.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares that the purpose of this bill is to reduce water consumption from commercial car wash facilities by requiring all new conveyor and in-bay car washes to install operational, recycled water systems.

SEC. 2. Part 2.12 (commencing with Section 10950) is added to Division 6 of the Water Code, to read:

PART 2.12. RECYCLED WATER USAGE BY CAR WASHES

10950. The following definitions govern the construction of this part:

(a) "Conveyor car wash" means a commercial car wash where the vehicle moves on a conveyor belt during the wash and the driver of the vehicle can remain in, or wait outside of, the vehicle.

(b) "In-bay car wash" means a commercial car wash where the driver pulls into a bay, parks the car, and the vehicle remains stationary while either a machine moves over the vehicle to clean it or one or more employees of the car wash clean the vehicle, instead of the vehicle moving through a tunnel.

(c) "Self-service car wash" means a commercial car wash where a customer washes his or her own car with spray wands and brushes.

(d) “Water recycling system” means a water system at the car wash that captures and reuses water previously used in wash or rinse cycles.

10951. An in-bay car wash or a conveyor car wash permitted and constructed after January 1, 2014, shall do either of the following:

(a) Install, use, and maintain a water recycling system that recycles and reuses at least 60 percent of the wash and rinse water.

(b) Use recycled water provided by a water supplier for at least 60 percent of its wash and rinse water.

10952. This part shall not apply to a self-service car wash.

10953. This part shall not be construed to limit the power of any city, city and county, or county to require more stringent levels of recycled water use at a car wash.